



**August 2005**

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## **Gillmor Washington Update**

As your Representative in Congress, I am proud to represent Ohio's Fifth Congressional District in Washington, DC.

In order to keep the citizens of the Fifth District better informed and up to date on my activities in Washington, DC and back home in Ohio, I have published the August edition of my monthly newsletter. It is my goal to provide you with the information you need to stay informed on the issues important to Ohio. In this edition of my Monthly Update, I have focused on the important events that have taken place in the month of July and inform you of upcoming August events in the Fifth District. I hope that you will find this information beneficial. Please contact me should you have any questions or comments.

## **Kicking Off August with Town Hall Meetings**

August began for me with town hall meetings in Fremont and Bowling Green. On Monday, August 1st, I was glad to have the opportunity to visit with citizens in the areas of Fremont and Bowling Green who attended my town hall meetings. There was much to report at these two meetings including the recent passage of both the energy bill and the highway bill. These two priorities provided much needed funding and policies for the Fifth District.



*Congressman Gillmor discusses federal legislation with constituents in Fremont.*

I have always enjoyed these meetings because they allow me the opportunity to visit with constituents and hear what concerns you would like me to bring back to Washington. These meetings also allow me to gauge what effect legislation moving through Congress will have on our district.

Among the many issues brought forth in Fremont and Bowling Green

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*Congressman Gillmor responds to questions from constituents in Bowling Green.*

were concern for pension stability, access to affordable healthcare and various viewpoints about international trade. Comments were thoughtful and many people came with facts and figures which will be helpful to me when I return to Washington in September.

I will be hosting five more meetings at the end of August and I hope you will have the opportunity to attend at least one and share your comments and concerns with me.

## **Manufacturing Takes Center Stage at Roundtable in Perrysburg**

On August 8th, I had the opportunity to tour the DaimlerChrysler Toledo Machining Plant in Perrysburg with Al Frink, Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Emily Stover DeRocco, Assistant Secretary of Labor. This visit allowed me to see firsthand the clean and safe environment in which our manufacturers work today. Gone are the pictures of soot covered workers emerging from holes with a look of despair across their faces. Today's manufacturers work in plants which pride themselves on safety records and continuing education classes.



*Congressman Gillmor is shown products created at the DaimlerChrysler Toledo Machining Plant during his visit with plant employees in Perrysburg.*

After my tour through DaimlerChrysler, I hosted a manufacturing roundtable at Owens Community College. This event was a great success. By moderating this open forum, I was able to hear from manufacturers in the field on their achievements and the needs for the future of the largest industry in our district. I was especially pleased to learn that many of the issues which have become the greatest concerns to the manufacturing industry are being tackled by Congress.

Among the concerns voiced at the roundtable were access to affordable healthcare, rising energy costs and increasing pension stability. I was glad I could report on the progress made by Congress as each of these concerns were brought to light. On the day of the roundtable, Presi-



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dent Bush signed our nation's comprehensive energy policy into law. As the sole Ohioan on the Energy and Commerce Committee to sit on the conference committee, this was particularly gratifying. In addition, the House has been considering legislation to reform our nation's pension system and has just recently passed legislation allowing businesses to form Association Health Plans. These plans will allow employers to band together and negotiate for lower healthcare costs.



*Congressman Gillmor listens to audience questions at the Fifth District Manufacturing Roundtable at Owens Community College.*

Besides government decision-makers, the roundtable included panelists who are experts in education, a field with great impact on the manufacturing industry. Among the educational experts were Owens Community College President Christa Adams, Northwest State Community College President Betty Young, and Terra Community College President Marsha Bordner. The community college presidents articulated the role our colleges play in manufacturing and there was complete agreement on the need for continuing education. This is certainly not a lesson lost on me, especially since the Fifth District contains three great community colleges and four great four-year institutions.

## Unveiling the Fisher-Titus Medical Center in Norwalk

On Sunday July 31st, I was honored to attend the grand opening of the



*Congressman Gillmor prepares to cut the ribbon opening the Fisher-Titus Medical Center in Norwalk.*

Fisher-Titus Medical Center in Norwalk. It has been nearly a year since construction began on the \$28 million investment into this 101,000 square foot facility. With patients expected in the middle of August, the patient pavilion is a state-of-the-art facility housing an ambulatory surgery unit, a surgery bay, numerous nurses stations, a gift

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shop and café, an intensive care unit with a nurses station and patient room, a birthing center with a family stay room, postpartum room, hydrotherapy room and labor and delivery facilities.

This Fisher-Titus Medical Center will be an exceptional addition to the Norwalk area and for the people of Huron County. While there remains great concern about rising healthcare costs and insurance premiums, the Fisher-Titus Medical Center proves that we do have dedicated physicians who can provide great care right here in the Fifth District of Ohio.

The patient pavilion is the first of four stages of construction that Fisher-Titus will go through in updating its facility. The facility is currently embarking upon a center for cancer services as well as adult, pediatric and cardiac rehabilitation. When complete, this facility will be another great addition to our area and further improve the quality of life for all our residents.

## **Energy Bill is Finally Signed into Law**

For many years now, I have written about the need for a national comprehensive energy policy. I am pleased to report that on August 8th, President Bush signed into law this very important bill. After passing different versions of the energy bill in the U.S. House and Senate, I was one of eleven members of the House Energy and Commerce Committee and the sole Ohioan to be appointed to serve on the joint House-Senate conference committee to resolve differences between the bills. Throughout the month of July, the conference committee met to create the final bill which was given to the President for his signature.



*Congressman Gillmor answers questions from the media during a press conference following passage of the Energy Bill by the U.S. House.*

After many years of work, it is a great step forward for our country to have a much needed energy bill. This legislation will create jobs, protect the environment and further secure our nation from our dangerous dependence on foreign energy sources.

As a conferee, I sponsored several amendments which were included in the final version of the Energy Bill. One of these provisions allows states to provide tax credits for the production of energy using clean coal. This provision is expected to save more than eleven million Ohioans over \$36 million each year.

Another provision included in the Energy Bill is the first comprehensive rewriting of the Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Program since its inception. This provision is an essential step in protecting people

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and the environment from the storage tanks which have reported leaks. To date, of the 700,000 underground storage tanks in America, nearly 430,000 have reported leaks. This provision will help the environment and save lives.

The Energy Bill also included the Renewable Fuel Standard which will result in the doubling of clean-burning and renewable fuels, including ethanol. By 2012, 7.5 billion gallons of ethanol will replace over 2 billion barrels of crude oil. This provision will be a big boom to the Fifth District whose fields of corn and soybeans will no longer just feed the nation, they will power it as well.

The energy bill will be a job saver and creator. It is expected that the bill could create as many as a half million jobs by reducing our dependence on foreign oil. Today, we consume 25 percent of the world's energy but represent only 5 percent of the world's population. By relying so heavily on foreign nations for our energy supply, we are sending billions of dollars to OPEC and hurting every U.S. citizen.

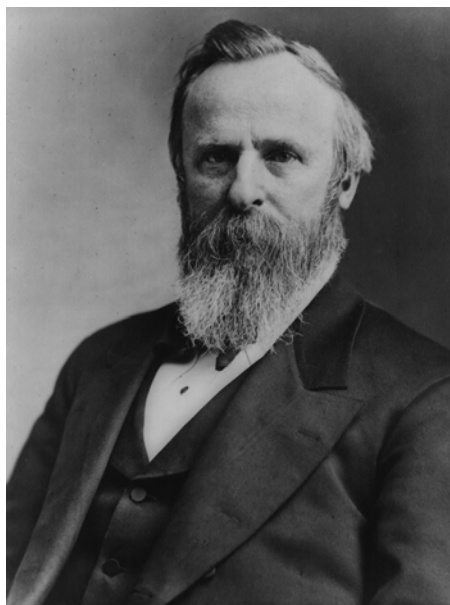
After four years and hundreds of hours of work and debate, the energy bill signed by the President will be vital in controlling future prices and providing an environment where businesses can flourish and families can save. By addressing this mounting crisis, the House and Senate took a major step forward in conservation and protection.

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## ***The News-Messenger Editorial: Hayes Center restoration will help entire area***

Fremont's top attraction is about to get more attractive.

Thanks to \$400,000 in federal money, the Rutherford B. Hayes Home will soon have work done that will make eight rooms more closely resemble their appearance when the president lived there.



U.S. Rep. Paul Gillmor, R-Old Fort, got the money inserted into a U.S. Interior Department appropriations bill. Soon, the Hayes Presidential Center will begin a fund-raising campaign for a local match to the federal money.

Restoring many of the home's rooms to their appearance in the 1890s should make the home more attractive to visitors, and what's good for the Hayes Center is good for Fremont, Sandusky County and the entire area.

Tourists visiting Spiegel Grove more than likely will patronize area businesses and visit attractions along the North Coast, including Port Clinton

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and Sandusky.

Area residents also will be able to watch the work in progress by visiting the Hayes Home during renovation work. Center Director Tom Culbertson said plans are to keep the rooms open during the work so that visitors can see what's going on.

Work is likely to begin next year, and fund-raising efforts will be announced soon. It's worthy of support and a positive development for the entire area.

\* Editorial reprinted from the August 5th edition of *The News-Messenger* in Fremont, Ohio.

## **August 30 - September 2: Come Have Coffee with the Congressman**

In the last week of August, I welcome Fifth District residents to have coffee with me at any of the five locations below. These stops will give you an opportunity to discuss any issue within the federal government.

I am pleased to have this time to meet with you and listen to your thoughts over a cup of coffee. These meetings will begin with my brief remarks regarding current issues being debated in Congress. However, most of the time is reserved for you to share your opinions with me.

*Coffee with the Congressman* is scheduled as follows:

***Tuesday, August 30, 2005***

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Ernsthausen Community Center  
Community Room  
100 Republic Street  
**NORWALK**

***Wednesday, August 31, 2005***

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
Ottawa VFW Post 9142  
212 West Second Street  
**OTTAWA**

***Thursday, September 1, 2005***

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.  
City of Upper Sandusky  
Council Chambers  
119 North Seventh Street  
**UPPER SANDUSKY**

If you are in the area, I hope you will stop by and spend some time sharing your thoughts with me.



***Wednesday, August 31, 2005***

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.  
City of Defiance- Community Room  
631 Perry Street  
**DEFIANCE**

***Friday, September 2, 2005***

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
Fulton County Administration Building  
2nd floor Conference Room  
152 South Fulton Street  
**WAUSEON**



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## **Contact Me**

If you have any suggestions on topics you would like to see addressed in my monthly updates, require any additional information, or would like to inform me of your views on matters concerning the federal government, please contact me anytime in Washington, D.C. or in any of my Ohio offices.

If you wish to forward your questions or concerns via U.S. mail, please address your correspondence to one of my Ohio offices as mail sent to the Longworth House Office Building in Washington is subject to a lengthy screening process and may not reach my office in a timely manner. You will find additional information on issues of federal concern on my website at <http://gillmor.house.gov>.